Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 21, 24, and 42. Please add new Claim 45. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1.   1-20.   (Canceled)

21.   (Currently Amended) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system for electronic creation, management and viewing of product information using a multimedia display system comprising:

(a)   a database repository storing information about products from one or <u>more</u> vendors according to an object model representing the product information, the object model including parametric objects, graphic objects, document objects, configuration business rules objects and procurement rule objects, where the object model is capable of handling an ~~unlimited~~ unrestricted number of objects for each product;

(b)   the configuration business rules objects being stored according to a hierarchy by:

(i) storing sub-products that a product is comprised of, including storing product part replacement information;

(ii) storing product accessories capable of being added to a product;

(iii) storing rules for building product solutions that incorporate product information stored in the database; or

(iv) storing rules for equivalence or substitution of products for use when building a product solution;

(c)   the database using a meta data system describing the product information, the meta data system capable of dynamic reconfiguration of user applications when [[i)]] new product types are added to the database~~, or ii) changes are made to a multimedia display user interface in communication with the database~~;

(d)   a content translator, in communication with the database, converting unstructured product content into structured product content based on the object model

and the meta data system, where the content translator indexes the structured product content in the database to create at least a portion of the product information;

(e) user applications, in communication with the database, using the object model and the meta data system, the user applications including a catalog application and a bill of materials application; and

(f) one or more of the user applications configuring and designing a product solution based on the configuration business rules objects, where the product solution being configured and designed includes one or more products each containing one or more sub-products, the architecture of the user applications enabling changes to be made to the configuration business rules objects without any custom reprogramming by storing the configuration business rules objects separate from application code of the user applications.

22. (Previously Presented) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in claim 21 wherein new configuration business rules are added without reprogramming the object model.

23. (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 21 wherein the configuration business rules provide for presenting only valid configurations of product options for the product solution.

24. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 21 wherein the configuration business rules provide a budget based configuration analysis such that only the addition of product options that are within a predefined limit are presented or permitted.

25. (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 24 wherein the budget is based upon at least one of: dimensions, weight, temperature, power consumption, air flow and cost.

26.   (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 21 wherein the bill of materials application uses the configuration business rules for presenting completed product bill of materials information for the product solution.

27.   (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 23 wherein the configuration business rules provide for presenting or permitting only options that do not conflict with other options already selected for the product solution.

28.   (Previously Presented) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 21 wherein the one or more user applications are automatically adaptive to the dynamic reconfiguration of the product information.

29.   (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 21 wherein in configuring and designing the product solution, specific products are selected, by a user without having to proceed in a predetermined sequence.

30.   (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 29 wherein the display is dynamically rerendered to reflect any selected products that have been added to the product solution.

31.   (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 30 wherein the product solution is rendered on the display as a vector graphic drawing, and when a selected product has been added product solution, the vector graphic drawing provided on the display is dynamically reconfigured to reflect the updated product solution including the added selected product.

32.   (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 31 wherein the vector graphic drawing is described in XML.

33.   (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 30 wherein the XML vector graphic drawing is transformed by changing at least one of the following: the color, size, and orientation on the display.

34.   (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 21 further comprising a reporting engine for tracking and recording activity of actual product selection criteria used during a user session.

35.   (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 21 further comprising a syndication and publication system providing for exporting of custom formatted product information.

36.   (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 35 wherein the exporting is done periodically at predefined intervals.

37.   (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 21 wherein the bill of materials application, in communication with the display further comprises an intelligent bill of materials displaying selected products and selected options for displaying products associated with the product solution, the display providing drill down for detailed information on the product solution.

38.   (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 37 wherein the bill of materials application, in communication with the display, further enables the product solution to be manipulated on the display by enabling users to add attributes specific to each line item in the bill of materials for the product solution.

39.   (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 38 wherein the added attributes include any discounts, asset tags, and service level.

40.   (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 21 wherein the product solution is a network infrastructure product.

41.   (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 21 wherein the display of the product solution is controlled by using customized views that enable dynamic presentation of different content to different users based upon login information.

42.   (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 41 wherein the views include:

    (a) security based views enabling suppliers to secure their environment by assigning users permissions and controls for the user applications;

    (b) product specific views enabling filtering out products inappropriate for users or groups of users;

    (c) attribute specific views allowing different users to see different attributes for [[on]] products;

    (d) internationalization, localization views displaying content in different languages, with different units of measure or currency for users or user groups in specific countries; and

    (e) document and reference material views allow different users to see different documents or reference materials.

43.   (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 21 further including enabling a user to save the product solution as a template in a secure storage area for reuse, and enabling the user or another user access to use the saved product solution.

44.   (Withdrawn) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system as in Claim 21 further including enabling a user to send bill of material information for the product solution to another user so that they can collaborate on the design and configuration of the product solution.

45.   (New) A computer implemented intelligent catalog system for electronic creation, management and viewing of product information using a multimedia display system comprising:

(a)   a database repository storing information about products from one or vendors according to an object model representing the product information, the object model including parametric objects, graphic objects, document objects, configuration business rules objects and procurement rule objects, where the object model is capable of handling an unrestricted number of objects for each product;

(b)   a generic scheme defining organization of the product information stored in the database, the scheme being capable of adding new products to the product information without any custom reprogramming, the scheme enabling data interchange and fast retrieval of the product information stored in the database;

(c)   the configuration business rules objects being stored according to a hierarchy by:

(i) storing sub-products that a product is comprised of, including storing product part replacement information;

(ii) storing product accessories capable of being added to a product;

(iii) storing rules for building product solutions that incorporate product information stored in the database; or

(iv) storing rules for equivalence or substitution of products for use when building a product solution;

(d)   the database using a meta data system describing the product information, the meta data system capable of dynamic reconfiguration of user applications when new product types are added to the database;

(e)   a content translator, in communication with the database, converting unstructured product content into structured product content based on the object model and the meta data system, where the content translator indexes the structured product content in the database to create at least a portion of the product information;

(f)   user applications, in communication with the database, using the object model and the meta data system, the user applications including a catalog application and a bill of materials application; and

(g)   one or more of the user applications configuring and designing a product solution based on the configuration business rules objects, where the product solution being configured and designed includes one or more products each containing one or more sub-products, where application code for the user applications is stored separate from the configuration business rules objects such that changes are capable of being made to the configuration business rules objects without having to perform custom reprogramming.